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C. A. BOUTELE, EDITOR.
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FRIDAY, JULY 26, 1889.

THE DESPOTISM OF RUM.

The arrogance and unscrupulousness of the Rum-power could not be more glaringly displayed than in the recent threats made in this city and elsewhere, that if attempt is made to enforce the laws of the present day against rum-shops; all the dead-letter statutes of by-gone years will be revived in the manner that will annoy the public. In other words, it is threatening that unless the saloons are permitted to defy all laws, the saloon interest will continue to harass and inconvenience the public in every possible way until the demands of the saloons to be freed from all the restraint of law shall be complied with in such way as to establish a true despotic reign of popular government.

The manner in which the rummers who have been compelled to close their habita in Bar Harbor have themselves become prosecutors of others shows the utter lack of any principle in their conduct against the laws which they are so ready to invoke in spite of the threatened boycotting of tradesmen in this city for signing a petition in favor of enforcing the plain requirements of the Constitution and laws of the State, shows the arrogance with which the Rum power proposes to crush all opposition to its sway.

An intelligent public, jealous of the people's own rights, thus menaced and invaded by the greed and insolence of a traitor that is everybody's foe, does not fail to measure the import of events, and the determination to overthrow the despotism of the Rum-shops is growing stronger and more earnest every hour.

The discussion concerning electricity as a means of execu^tion has developed a great variety of opinion. After various experts have been examined by the New York referee Thomas A. Edison has been called upon to testify and declares that 1,000 volts will cause instantaneous and painless death. Edison, who has made a study of electricity all his life, certainly ought to be able to give conclusive testimony.

On Monday evening the station agent at Bloomsbury, N. J., on the Lehigh Valley Railroad intercepted a Hungarian who was on his way to Scranton. On being questioned, the man produced a ticket good for Scranton City to his destination. He had journeyed the entire distance from New York and told the agent he supposed the ticket was only good to allow him to walk over the roads. He was put on a train to Scranton.

Mother's love trained our Presidents and statesmen. Washington's father died when he was twelve years old. Jefferson, Jackson and Madison were left fatherless when small boys; Harrison, the elder, when he was young. Garfield's father died when the future President was a babe. Tyler, Andrew Johnson and Hayes all depended upon their widowed mothers for their training. It was the step-mother of Abraham Lincoln more than any other person that made him the man he was.

In a letter to the New York Tribune James H. Chambers writes: "While you and others are lauding Governor Lowry of Mississippi for his new-found zeal in the suppression of crime, it is in order to ask a few questions. How many proclamations did he issue, and what, if any, efforts did he make to bring to justice the men who murdered a dozen negroes in a courtroom at Carrollton, or the men who went gunning for weeks for the negroes in Kemper County, or the men who at Atchison openly hanged two colored agents for daring to employ negro laborers to leave the State?" Sullivan and his friends had good reasons to believe they could violate the law with impunity when such an official was Governor. They could not know that he who swallowed the curse would strangle at a gait."

There is another disappointment in store for the Democratic and Mugwump papers. Of late they have been whipping the Republican majority in the next House based on the alleged disaffection of Representative Brower, of North Carolina. According to this nicely arranged programme Mr. Brower was to bolt the party caucus and take with him a sufficient number of the Southern Representatives to ensure the election of a Democratic Speaker. Mr. Brower, however, has been seen by a correspondent of the New York Tribune to whom he said there was not one word of truth in the stories about his defection from the Republican party. To add to the discomfort of the opposition there is not the least evidence that the North Carolina Representatives could deliver the goods if he did attempt to inaugurate a bolt. On the other hand Southern members have already taken pains to declare that they would not be a party to such a movement. The opposition will have to work up another scheme.

The rivalry between Minneapolis and St. Paul raged fast and furious. Some one from the latter city having sent out a statement comparing the growth of the two cities, showing an advantage in favor of St. Paul, Mr. A. J. Dether, editor of the Minneapolis Tribune, sends "out" to the press the following over his own name: "The directory of St. Paul was issued on the 16th Inst. It contained 74,000 names, an increase of 4,000 over 1888. The Minneapolis directory was issued to-night and contains 80,000 names, an increase of nearly 6,000 over 1888." According to the estimate made during the state census of 1880, St. Paul has 180,000 population. By the same multiple Minneapolis contains 200,000 people, showing Minneapolis to be in the lead by 40,000 people. This directory estimate is confirmed by other statistics. Minneapolis cast 36,000 votes for President in November, 1888, while St. Paul cast but 20,000. Minneapolis' 18,000 school children are supplied with books. St. Paul has but 14,000 enrolled school children. Minneapolis' assessed valuation of \$100,000,000, while St. Paul's assessed valuation is \$15,000,000. The twin cities of the Northwest undoubtedly have 400,000 population, but Minneapolis leads St. Paul by more than 40,000.

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